

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Historical Perspective

White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) were reported to be quite abundant when European settlers arrived in Iowa in the early 1800's. Although the clearing and cultivating of land for agriculture may have initially improved the suitability of the landscape for deer, uncontrolled exploitation for food and hides rapidly reduced deer numbers. By 1880, deer were rarely sighted in much of the state and, in 1898, the deer season was legally closed. By this time deer had been virtually eliminated from all parts of the state.

Re-establishment of deer into the state can be traced to escapes and releases from captive herds and translocation and natural immigration from deer herds in surrounding states. A conservative estimate of the population in 1936 placed statewide numbers at between 500 and 700 animals. This small herd grew steadily. By 1950 deer were reported in most counties and the statewide estimate topped 10,000. Concentrations in some areas were beginning to cause problems by damaging agricultural crops. In response to these problems the first modern deer season was held in December of 1953 and 4,000 deer were killed. This spring the deer herd was estimated to be about 210,000 before the fawning season. The harvest in 1996 exceeded 100,000 for the first time ever.

Although deer are frequently associated with forested areas, deer will utilize many different types of habitat as long as the area provides adequate cover. Examples of these types of areas include brushy draws and fencelines, marshes, and grassy areas like those provided by

the federal Conservation Reserve Program (CRP). Standing corn also provides ideal habitat for part of the year since it provides food, cover and easy travel lanes. Deer utilize almost all plants for food at one time or another during the year. Deer feeding habits can best be described as being randomly selective as deer will sample many plants while feeding but often utilize a single source of food for the majority of their diet.

The whitetail's ability to thrive in Iowa is likely the result of an abundant, reliable food source and a winter climate where snow depths rarely exceed 12" for a prolonged length of time. These factors combine to allow deer to come through the "winter bottleneck" in excellent condition. The excellent nutrition also enables deer to have high reproductive rates. Many does in Iowa have a single fawn their first year and 2 fawns each subsequent year. Deer in the wild can probably maintain these high reproductive rates until they are well past 10 years of age. Past research in Iowa has found that 8 to 12% of adult does have 3 fawns.

Another reason that deer do so well in Iowa is that they are very mobile. Although many deer never move far from the area where they were born, a significant number (10-20% on average) leave and travel to new areas before establishing a core area. These core areas may change seasonally with deer shifting between wintering areas and fawning areas. These movements allow deer to fill voids left open due to deaths and changing habitat. Thus deer easily pioneer into new areas when habitat is suitable. The highest rates of movement occur during 2 periods of the year. The

first is in the spring when does move to their fawning areas. Many of the previous year's fawns are forced to find areas of their own at this time. The second period is in the fall during the breeding season. The breeding season or rut begins in mid-October and runs through mid-January, although the peak of activity occurs during early to mid-November.

Careful management of deer populations by man has also played an important role in allowing deer numbers to return to the levels enjoyed today. Management consists of carefully regulating the doe harvest since hunting provides the major source of mortality for deer in Iowa today. Unchecked, Iowa's deer herd could grow at a rate of 20% to 40% each year. At this rate, deer numbers would double in as few as 3 years. With Iowa's abundant agricultural crops providing food, densities could potentially reach 100 or more deer per square mile before natural regulatory mechanisms would begin to affect deer health and slow the rate of reproduction. Deer numbers this high would cause economic hardship to Iowa's landowners as well as alter the natural vegetative community. Maintaining a deer population in balance with the wants and needs of the people in the state is a difficult task and hunting is the only viable management option to achieve this goal.

2001 Hunting Season Results

A record number of deer were killed during the 2001 season. The estimated kill was 136,655 (Table 1.4) which was about 8% higher than in 2000 (Table 1.2). The previous record harvest was last year when an estimated 126,535 deer were taken. Almost all of the increase was due to an increased kill of antlerless

deer. The number of does killed increased by about 8,500 deer or 15% over 2000. The number of button bucks increased by about 2,100 deer or 13% over 2000. Most of the increased kill (7,600 of the 10,000 increase) was due to the extra antlerless licenses and the expanded number of counties open during the January season. The estimated number of antlered deer in the harvest stayed about the same, down about 600 from 2000.

The season framework was basically the same as last year (Table 1.1). This was the sixth year for the special January season. Landowners in these counties could get a free tag for this season in addition to the normal free license and the regular tags a deer hunter could legally obtain. Hunters in both shotgun seasons, the late muzzleloader season and the bow seasons were allowed to obtain a bonus antlerless license for all 99 counties in Iowa. These licenses were restricted to a specific county.

About 1,600 additional deer were taken during special management hunts in urban areas and state and county parks and another 1,250 deer were taken on special depredation tags issued to landowners with damage problems.

Seven of the top 10 counties for total kill were either in the northeast or southeast corner of the state. Clayton was the top county for total kill with 5,422 deer or about 7.0 per square mile of area (Table 1.5 & 1.6). Grundy county had the lowest kill with an estimate of 193 deer or only about 1 deer per 2 square miles.

The relative precision of the harvest estimates from the 9 separate postcard surveys ranged from $\pm 2\%$ for shotgun hunters to $\pm 12\%$ for the youth season. The relative precision for the doe harvest ranged from $\pm 4\%$ for shotgun hunters to $\pm 22\%$ for the archery season. The relative precision of the county

estimates averaged $\pm 24\%$ for total kill and $\pm 36\%$ for doe kill. A total of 50,723 license holders were sampled with 32,559 responses returned. This is a response rate of 64%.

Shotgun Season

The kill during the shotgun seasons was about 7% higher than what was recorded in 2000 (Table 1.2). The main reason for the increase was that more licenses were issued which resulted in more hunters. Success rates were down by 5% however.

Antlered bucks made up about 46% of the total kill, while does made up 42% and the rest were buck fawns.

There were nearly 71,802 hunters (paid licenses only) in the field during the first season and they killed 49,667 deer while 47,411 hunters tagged 29,997 deer during the second season. This translates to a 69% success rate for first season hunters and 63% for second season hunters. Antlered deer made up the largest proportion (53%) of the kill during the first season while does made up the largest proportion (51%) of the deer tagged during the second season.

Hunting pressure (Fig. 1.1) was generally higher in most counties during the first season. About 60% of the hunters with paid licenses hunted during the first season. This is similar to past few years. Highest hunter numbers were in eastern and southern Iowa during both seasons.

Deer kill (Fig. 1.2) was also highest in northeast and southeast Iowa during the first season and in the eastern parts of the state during the second season.

Success rates (Fig. 1.3) were good across most of the state in both seasons. Hunters in almost all counties had success rates greater than 60% especially during the first season.

Does made up less than 40% of the kill in most counties during the first season (Fig. 1.4). However does made up over 50% of the harvest in most counties during the second season. First season hunters averaged 2.8 days in the field, while second season hunters averaged 4.2 days in the field.

Although the lack of precision of the county estimates (Table 1.5 and 1.6) makes it difficult to evaluate the kill in individual counties and determine whether management objectives are being met, it is possible to make some generalizations at a larger scale. Overall, regulations appear to be very effective in allowing more deer to be taken in southern and eastern Iowa (Fig. 1.5). However the doe harvest (Fig. 1.6) is still below 50% in most counties outside of those counties open during the bonus January season.

Bonus January Season

A special January season was held in 11 counties in southern Iowa to help reduce deer numbers. A total of 4,847 licenses were issued, which is an increase of 136% from 2000 when only 2 counties were open. While 62% of the hunters with paid licenses were successful in taking an antlerless deer only 42% of those with free licenses were successful.

The kill during this season increased the total kill by 10% and doe kill by 17% in these 11 counties. An estimated 79% of the deer taken were does, 16% were buck fawns and 5% were bucks that had shed their antlers. This increased the number of antlered bucks taken in the 11 counties by only about 1%.

Archery

A record number of deer were taken by archers in 2001. The reported

harvest of 18,798 was 6% higher than the previous record kill reported in 2000 (Table 1.4). An increase in the number of licenses issued and the number of hunters in the field were the reasons for the increase. Success rates were lower, going from 44% in 2000 to 37% in 2001 (Table 1.7). Seventy five percent of the deer taken by archers were antlered bucks.

Archers averaged about 17 days in the field in 2001, 14.2 days before the shotgun season and 2.8 days after it. The average archer hunted 45 days to bag a deer. The timing of the harvest appeared to be similar to that reported in the past (Fig. 1.7). Seventy percent of the bowhunters reported shooting their deer in November with nearly 40% of the harvest occurring between November 4th and 17th. About 10% of the total harvest occurred during the late season after the shotgun seasons.

Muzzleloader

Kill during the early muzzleloader season was about the same as in 2000. Hunter numbers were slightly lower but success rates were slightly higher. About 51% of hunters reported that they tagged a deer. Antlered bucks made up about 52% of the kill (Table 1.8). Hunters averaged about 4.2 days in the field.

The kill during the late muzzleloader season was 23% higher than in 2000. The main reason was an increase in the number of licenses that were issued which resulted in more hunters in the field. Most of the extra licenses were the antlerless licenses that were issued for all 99 counties.

About 44% of the deer killed during the late muzzleloader season were antlered bucks. Hunters averaged about 8 days in the field.

Nonresident

Of the 6,019 any-sex licenses issued, 3,304 went to hunters during the shotgun season, 2,095 to bowhunters, and 620 to late season muzzleloader hunters. An additional 1,489 antlerless licenses were issued and 960 went to hunters during the shotgun season, 488 went to bowhunters and 41 went to late season muzzleloader hunters. About 61% of the shotgun hunters, 38% of the muzzleloader hunters and 36% of the archers were successful. Nonresidents spent an average of 3.8 days in the field. Nearly 57% of the nonresidents reported that they were hunting with an Iowa resident.

Special Youth Season

The number of young hunters in this special season increased by 26% from 2000. The hunt is restricted to youths 12 through 15 years old. The young hunter had to pass a hunter safety course and had to be accompanied into the field by an adult. About 44% were successful in bagging a deer. Nearly 60% of the deer taken were antlerless deer. These young hunters spent an average of 4.3 days in the field.

Special Deer Management Zones

Special management hunts were conducted at 18 locations in 2001 (Table 1.11) which is 2 more than in 2000. Another hunt planned for the IAAP near Burlington was cancelled due to safety concerns after the terrorist attacks. These hunts are designed to meet the management needs of areas such as state and county parks and urban areas that are not suitable to be opened up to general regulations. Most deer taken were antlerless and deer tagged did not count against the hunters regular bag limit. Most

hunts were very successful in removing deer in these problem areas. An additional 1,950 tags were issued for depredation situations which was nearly 200 more than in 2000.

Hunter Opinion

Hunters were asked to rate the quality of their hunt and the number of deer in the area where they hunt (Table 1.9). The proportion of hunters that were either satisfied or very satisfied ranged from a low of 76% for late season muzzleloader hunters to a high of 87% for non-resident hunters. Satisfaction ratings were similar or slightly lower than reported in 2000.

The proportion of hunters who felt the number of deer in their area was too high was 21% which is identical to 2000. Just over 60% of the hunters reported that the number of deer is about right and the number who think there are too few deer increased to 16%.

Population Surveys

Three techniques are used to monitor deer population trends in Iowa. These are 1) an aerial survey conducted in January and February after the deer seasons are complete, 2) a spotlight survey conducted in April, and 3) a record of the number of deer killed on Iowa's rural highways. All of these surveys correlate well with the reported harvest over the last 15 years and appear to provide reliable long-term trend indices. However, none of these surveys can be considered absolutely reliable predictors of annual changes in the population because of high variability in the survey conditions.

Deer populations for the state as a

whole appear to have increased during the past 3 to 4 years (Fig 1.8). All 3 surveys are higher than they were during the last time deer numbers peaked in the late 1980's (Table 1.10).

The aerial survey conducted after the 2001 season (Jan and Feb 2002) was down about 20%. Conditions for this survey were not as good as they were in 2000 in most areas.

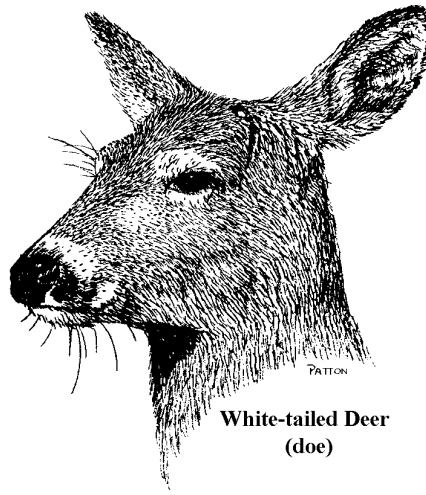
The number of deer killed on rural highways increased by about 19% in 2001. When this number is adjusted for the increase in vehicle miles driven (kill per billion miles), the increase was 17%.

The number of deer seen per 25 mile route on the spotlight survey decreased slightly after a big increase in 2000. The mean number of deer reported per route is over 60% higher than those recorded in the late 1980's. However part of this increase was due to a change in the placement of the routes between 1994 and 1995.

Outlook for 2002

Hunters will see few changes in the 2002 deer seasons. Regulations will again allow all hunters to take deer of either sex in both shotgun and muzzleloader seasons in all counties. These regulations may decrease the number of hunters that hunt during the second season in these counties. Also antlerless licenses will be available for hunters in the bow, second shotgun and late muzzleloader seasons in every county in the state. The objective of these regulations is to bring deer numbers back to the 1987-88 target level.

One change for 2002 extends the bonus antlerless zone to all of the counties in the southern 2 tiers of counties. In another change all landowners may purchase up to 2 antlerless licenses for their farm unit.



**White-tailed Deer
(doe)**

Table 1.1 The dates, hours and zones for shotgun, archery and muzzleloader seasons (1953-present).

Year	Zones	Shotgun		Archery		Muzzleloader	
		Dates	Hours	Dates	Hours	Dates	Hours
1953	45 Counties	Dec 10-14	9am-4pm	Dec 10-14 a	9am-4pm		
1954	51 1/2 Counties	Dec 10-12	9am-4pm	Dec 10-12 b	9am-4pm		
1955	Statewide	Dec 3-5	9am-4pm	Oct 29-Nov 20 c	6:30am-4pm		
1956	Statewide	Dec 8-9	8am-4pm	Oct 13-Nov 12	6:30am-5pm		
1957	Statewide	Dec 7-8	8am-4pm	Oct 26-Nov 25	6:30am-5pm		
1958	Statewide	Dec 13-14	8am-4pm	Nov 1- Nov 30	6:30am-5:30pm		
1959	Statewide	Dec 12-13	8am-4pm	Oct 31-Nov 30	6:30am-5:30pm		
1960	Statewide	Dec 17-19	8am-4pm	Oct 15-Nov 27	6:30am-5:30pm		
1961	Statewide	Dec 16-18	8am-4pm	Oct 14-Nov 30	6:30am-5:30pm		
1962	Statewide	Dec 15-17	8am-4pm	Oct 13-Dec 1	6:30am-5:30pm		
1963	Long	Dec 14-16	8am-4pm	Oct 12-Dec 1	1/2 hr before		
1963	Short	Dec 14-15	8am-4pm		sunrise to		
1964	Long	Dec 12-15	8am-4pm	Oct 17-Dec 6	1/2 hr after		
1964	Short	Dec 12-13	8am-4pm		sunset		
1965	Long	Dec 11-14	8am-4pm	Oct 16-Dec 5	"		
1965	Short	Dec 11-12	8am-4pm				
1966	Long	Nov 19-22	8am-4pm	Oct 15-Nov 13&	"		
1966	Short	Nov 19-20	8am-4pm	Nov 26-Dec 16	"		
1967	1-3	Dec 2-4	8am-4:30pm	Sep 30-Nov 30	"		
1967	4-6	Dec 2-3	8am-4:30pm				
1968	1-2	Dec 7-9	8am-4:30pm	Sep 28-Nov 28	"		
1968	3-4	Dec 7-8	8am-4:30pm				
1969	1,2,4	Dec 6-8	8am-4:30pm	Sep 27- Nov 27	"		
1969	3,5	Dec 6-7	8am-4:30pm				
1970	1,2,4	Dec 5-7	8am-4:30pm	Sep 26-Nov 26	"		
1970	3,5	Dec 5-6	8am-4:30pm				
1971	1-5	Dec 4-5	8am-4:30pm	Oct 16-Nov 28&	"		
1972	1,2,4	Dec 2-3	8am-4:30pm	Oct 6-Nov 26	1/2 hr before		
1972	3,5 d	Dec 2-5	8am-4:30pm		sunrise to		
1973	1-5 e	Dec 1-5	Sunrise to Sunset	Oct 13-Nov 25& Dec 8-16	1/2 hr after sunset		
1974	1-5	Dec 7-11	"	Oct 12-Dec 1	"		
1975	1-5	Nov 22-25	"	Oct 11-Nov 21&	"		
1975	1-5	Dec 6-12	"	Nov 26-Dec 5	"		
1976	1-10	Nov 27-30	"	Oct 2-Nov 26	"		
1976	1-10	Dec 4-10	"				
1977	1-10	Dec 3-6	"	Oct 8-Dec 2	"		
1977	1-10	Dec 10-16	"				
1978	1-10	Dec 2-5	"	Oct 7-Dec 1	"		
1978	1-10	Dec 9-15	"				
1979	1-10	Dec 1-4	"	Oct 6-Nov 30	"		
1979	1-10	Dec 8-14	"				
1980	1-10	Dec 6-9	"	Oct 11-Dec 5	"		
1980	1-10	Dec 13-19	"				
1981	1-10	Dec 5-8	"	Oct 10-Dec 4	"		
1981	1-10	Dec 12-18	"				
1982	1-10	Dec 4-7	"	Oct 9-Dec 3	"		
1982	1-10	Dec 11-17	"				

Table 1.1 The dates, hours and zones for shotgun, archery and muzzleloader seasons (1953-present).

Year	Zones	Shotgun		Archery		Muzzleloader	
		Dates	Hours	Dates	Hours	Dates	Hours
1983	1-10	Dec 3-6	"	Oct 8-Dec 2	"		
1983	1-10	Dec 10-16	"				
1984	1-10	Dec 1-4	"	Oct 6-Nov 30	"	Dec 15-21	Sunrise to
1984	1-10	Dec 8-14	"				Sunset
1985	1-10	Dec 7-11	"	Oct 12-Dec 6	"	Dec 21-27	"
1985	1-10	Dec 14-20	"				
1986	1-10	Dec 6-10	"	Oct 11-Dec 5	"	Oct 11-17	1/2 hr before
1986	1-10	Dec 13-19	"			Dec 20-Jan 4	sunrise to
1987	1-10	Dec 5-9	"	Oct 1-Dec 4 &	"	Oct 10-18	1/2 hr after
1987	1-10	Dec 12-20	"	Dec 21-Jan 10		Dec 21-Jan 11	sunset
1988	1-10	Dec 3-7	"	Oct 1-Dec 2 &	"	Oct 15-23	"
1988	1-10	Dec 10-18	"	Dec 19-Jan 10		Dec 19-Jan 11	"
1989	1-10	Dec 2-6	"	Oct 1-Dec 1 &	"	Oct 14-Oct 22	"
1989	1-10	Dec 9-17	"	Dec 18-Jan 10		Dec 18-Jan 11	"
1990	1-10	Dec 1-5	"	Oct 1-Nov 30	"	Oct 13- Oct 2	"
1990	1-10	Dec 8-16	"	Dec 17-Jan 10		Dec 17-Jan 11	"
1991	1-10	Dec 7-11	"	Oct 1-Dec 6 &	"	Oct 12- Oct 2	"
1991	1-10	Dec 14-22	"	Dec 23-Jan 10		Dec 23-Jan 11	"
1992	1-10	Dec 5-9	"	Oct 1-Dec 4&	"	Oct 10-Oct 18	"
1992	1-10	Dec 12-20	"	Dec 21-Jan 10		Dec 21-Jan 11	"
1993	2	Dec 4-8	"	Oct 1-Dec 3&	"	Oct 9-Oct 17	"
1993	2	Dec 11-19	"	Dec 20-Jan 10		Dec 20-Jan 11	"
1994	Statewide	Dec 3-7	"	Oct 1-Dec 2&	"	Oct 15-Oct 23	"
1994	Statewide	Dec 10-18	"	Dec 19-Jan 10		Dec 19-Jan 11	"
1995	Statewide f	Dec 2-6	"	Oct 1-Dec 1&	"	Oct 14-Oct 22	"
1995	Statewide	Dec 9-17	"	Dec 18-Jan 10		Dec 18-Jan 11	"
1996	Statewide g	Dec 7-11	"	Oct 1-Dec 6&	"	Oct 12-Oct 20	"
1996	Statewide	Dec 14-22	"	Dec 23-Jan 10		Dec 23-Jan 11	"
1997	Statewide h	Dec 6-10	"	Oct 1-Dec 5&	"	Oct 11-Oct 18	"
1997	Statewide	Dec 13-21	"	Dec 22-Jan 10		Dec 22-Jan 11	"
1998	Statewide h	Dec 5-9	"	Oct 1-Dec 4&	"	Oct 17-Oct 25	"
1998	Statewide	Dec 12-20	"	Dec 21-Jan 10		Dec 21-Jan 11	"
1999	Statewide h	Dec 4-8	"	Oct 1-Dec 3&	"	Oct 16-Oct 24	"
1999	Statewide	Dec 11-19	"	Dec 20-Jan 10		Dec 20-Jan 11	"
2000	Statewide i	Dec 2-6	"	Oct 1-Dec 1&	"	Oct 14-Oct 22	"
2000	Statewide	Dec 9-17	"	Dec 18-Jan 10		Dec 18-Jan 11	"
2001	Statewide h	Dec 1-5	j	Oct 1-Nov 30	"	Oct 13- Oct 2	"
2001	Statewide	Dec 8-16	j	Dec 17-Jan 10		Dec 17-Jan 11	"

a - Open for same counties as shotgun

b - Same counties as shotgun plus 5 1/2 counties from Dec 1-12 bow-only

c - Open statewide in all following years

d - Modified bucks-only, license quota

e - Unlimited bucks-only statewide in all following years

f - 34 counties were any-sex during 1st season and 74 were bucks only during first 7 days of the 2nd season

g - 35 counties were any-sex during 1st season and 26 were bucks only during the first 5 days of the 2nd season

h - all counties were any-sex during both seasons

i - 17 counties were buck-only during first 3 days of first season

j - 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset

Table 1.2 A summary of the number of licenses issued, the number of hunters, the number of deer harvested and success rates for the 2001-2002 season.

Season	License Type	Licenses Issued	Number of Hunters	Harvest	Success Rate
REGULAR GUN					
Paid	Season 1	73,660	71,802	49,667	69%
	Season 2	48,686	47,411	29,957	63%
	Antlerless	5,695	5,394	3,097	57%
	Nonresident	4,256	4,020	2,448	61%
	Total	132,297 (+12%)	128,627 (+14%)	85,169 (+6%)	
Landowner Total		39,820 (+24%)	30,330 (+22%)	14,801 (+12%)	49%
GUN SEASON TOTAL		172,117 (+15)	158,957 (+16%)	99,970 (+7%)	63%
MUZZLELOADER					
Early	Paid	7,501	7,101	3,773	53%
	Landowner	2,536	1,927	820	43%
	Total	10,037 (-2%)	9,028 (-1%)	4,593 (NC)	51%
Late	Paid	10,505	9,442	4,129	44%
	Antlerless	5,517	5,084	2,477	49%
	Landowner	2,068	1,494	484	32%
	Nonresident	661	601	230	38%
	Total	18,751 (+23%)	16,621 (+29%)	7,320 (+23%)	44%
MUZZLELOADER TOTAL		28,788 (+13%)	25,649 (+17%)	11,913 (+13%)	46%
JANUARY SEASON					
	Paid	2,858	1,779	1,111	62%
	Landowner	1,989	1,021	428	42%
	Total	4,847 (+136%)	2,800 (+128%)	1,539 (+108%)	55%
YOUTH	Paid	3,565	3,448	1,567	45%
	Landowner	143	128	48	38%
	Total	3,708 (+23%)	3,576 (+26%)	1,615 (+18%)	45%
ARCHERY	Paid	37,355	35,416	13,134	37%
	Antlerless	7,862	7,483	3,526	47%
	Landowner	4,202	3,187	1,274	40%
	Nonresident	2,583	2,429	864	36%
ARCHERY TOTAL		52,002 (+16%)	48,515 (+20%)	18,798 (+6%)	39%
TOTAL b		265,939 (+16%)	243,974 (+17%)	136,655 (+8%)	

a - the numbers in parentheses are the percent change from 2000-2001, NC = < 0.5%

b - total include licensed hunters and kill from hunts in special deer management zones

Table 1.3 Historical data on deer license issue by license type (1953 - present). Totals include special IAAP licenses (1985-1990), 4074 special late season AS licenses for zone 6 (1985), nonresidents, special management unit hunts and special youth licenses.

Year	Regular Gun			Muzzleloader			Archery	Grand Total
	Paid	Landowner	Total	Early	Late	Total		
1953	3,772	a	3,772				10	3,782
1954	3,778	3,368	7,146				92	7,238
1955	5,586	a	5,586				414	6,000
1956	5,440	a	5,440				1,284	6,724
1957	5,997	a	5,997				1,227	7,224
1958	6,000	a	6,000				1,380	7,380
1959	5,999	a	5,999				1,627	7,626
1960	7,000	a	7,000				1,772	8,772
1961	8,000	a	8,000				2,190	10,190
1962	10,001	a	10,001				2,404	12,405
1963	12,001	a	12,001				2,858	14,859
1964	15,993	a	15,993				3,687	19,680
1965	17,491	a	17,491				4,342	21,833
1966	20,811	a	20,811				4,576	25,387
1967	20,812	21,121	41,933				4,413	46,346
1968	20,485	24,796	45,281				5,136	50,417
1969	18,000	23,476	41,476				5,465	46,941
1970	18,000	21,697	39,697				5,930	45,627
1971	18,000	10,522	28,522				6,789	35,311
1972	19,000	11,205	30,205				6,916	37,121
1973	27,530	9,686	37,216				10,506	47,722
1974	33,772	16,329	50,101				12,040	62,141
1975	56,003	17,821	73,824				12,296	86,120
1976	60,196	17,818	78,014				12,522	90,536
1977	58,715	16,289	75,004				12,994	87,998
1978	51,934	15,699	67,633				12,809	80,442
1979	55,718	10,504	66,222				13,378	79,600
1980	64,462	12,858	77,320				15,398	92,718
1981	69,530	14,068	83,598				17,258	100,856
1982	74,331	15,431	89,762				18,824	108,586
1983	75,918	15,067	90,985				19,945	110,930
1984	79,697	16,777	96,474		1,644	1,644	21,648	119,766
1985	82,218	20,674	102,892		1,522	1,522	22,830	127,244
1986	84,858	25,432	110,290	2,246	1,973	4,219	26,521	141,030
1987	91,804	26,780	118,584	3,091	2,710	5,801	28,910	153,295
1988	101,338	28,002	129,340	3,565	3,618	7,183	30,020	166,543
1989	107,171	33,798	140,969	5,995	12,201	18,196	34,745	194,611
1990	106,781	27,106	133,887	6,602	15,949	22,551	35,217	192,551
1991	100,587	30,834	131,421	7,064	11,458	18,522	33,359	184,041
1992	100,461	30,084	130,545	8,280	10,978	19,315	34,165	186,436
1993	96,577	21,887	118,464	7,306	8,926	16,232	30,938	168,017
1994	102,773	22,809	125,582	8,113	9,737	17,850	34,222	180,525
1995	101,053	18,157	119,210	7,193	8,059	15,463	34,434	177,441
1996	106,746	28,080	134,826	8,806	11,820	20,626	36,351	202,834
1997	109,169	24,423	133,592	8,979	15,049	24,028	37,106	211,118
1998	114,358	25,960	140,318	9,504	12,721	22,225	39,506	223,419
1999	113,695	31,196	144,891	10,246	13,260	23,506	43,687	233,690
2000	113,728	32,116	145,844	10,279	15,242	25,521	44,658	229,800
2001	128,041	38,820	166,861	10,037	18,751	28,788	52,002	265,939

a - license not required

Table 1.4 Historical data on deer harvest by license type (1953-present). Totals include IAAP harvest, special management unit hunts, nonresidents and youth.

Year	Regular Gun			Muzzleloader			Archery	Grand Total
	Paid	Landowner	Total	Early	Late	Total		
1953	2,401	1,606	4,007				1	4,008
1954	1,827	586	2,413				10	2,423
1955	2,438	568	3,006				58	3,064
1956	2,000	561	2,561				117	2,678
1957	2,187	480	2,667				138	2,805
1958	2,141	588	2,729				162	2,891
1959	1,935	541	2,476				255	2,731
1960	3,188	804	3,992				277	4,269
1961	4,033	964	4,997				367	5,364
1962	4,281	1,018	5,299				404	5,703
1963	5,595	1,017	6,612				538	7,151
1964	7,274	1,750	9,024				670	9,694
1965	6,588	1,322	7,910				710	8,620
1966	9,070	1,672	10,742				579	11,321
1967	7,628	2,764	10,392				791	11,183
1968	9,051	3,890	12,941				830	13,771
1969	6,952	3,779	10,731				851	11,582
1970	8,398	4,345	12,743				1,037	13,780
1971	7,779	2,680	10,459				1,232	11,691
1972	7,747	2,738	10,485				1,328	11,813
1973	10,017	2,191	12,208				1,822	14,030
1974	11,720	4,097	15,817				2,173	17,990
1975	15,293	3,655	18,948				2,219	21,167
1976	11,728	2,529	14,257				2,350	16,607
1977	10,737	2,051	12,788				2,400	15,188
1978	12,815	2,353	15,168				2,957	18,125
1979	14,178	1,971	16,149				3,305	19,454
1980	16,511	2,346	18,857				3,803	22,660
1981	19,224	2,354	21,578				4,368	25,946
1982	19,269	2,472	21,741				4,720	26,461
1983	27,078	3,297	30,375				5,244	35,619
1984	29,912	3,537	33,449		307	307	5,599	39,355
1985	32,613	5,344	37,957		457	457	5,805	44,219
1986	41,352	10,378	51,730	349	728	1,077	9,895	62,702
1987	53,230	10,270	63,500	1,509	1,027	2,536	9,722	75,758
1988	66,757	13,298	80,055	1,835	1,294	3,129	9,897	93,756
1989	67,606	12,963	80,569	2,619	3,715	6,334	11,857	99,712
1990	69,101	9,095	78,196	2,819	5,884	8,703	10,146	98,002
1991	56,811	11,575	68,386	3,120	2,766	5,886	8,807	83,635
1992	50,822	10,453	61,275	3,316	3,231	6,564	8,814	77,684
1993	52,624	8,354	60,978	2,219	2,883	5,102	9,291	76,430
1994	59,054	8,735	67,789	2,610	3,196	5,806	12,040	87,231
1995	65,206	7,917	73,123	2,831	3,408	6,363	13,372	97,256
1996	71,577	10,896	82,473	2,895	4,558	7,453	12,314	107,632
1997	77,169	10,588	87,757	4,062	5,508	9,570	14,313	118,404
1998	73,165	9,989	83,154	4,448	5,343	9,791	12,302	112,608
1999	74,362	12,966	87,328	5,277	5,329	10,606	15,266	121,635
2000	77,743	13,189	90,932	4,585	5,936	10,521	17,727	126,535
2001	82,721	14,801	97,522	4,593	7,320	11,913	18,798	136,655

Table 1.5 Harvest estimates and ranking for each season by county for total kill during the 2001-2002 deer season.

County	Harvest							Rank						
	Muzzleloader			Archery	Youth	Non-resident	Total	Muzzleloader			Archery	Youth	Non-resident	Total
	Shotgun	Early	Late					Shotgun	Early	Late				
Clayton	4,174	287	166	616	34	145	5,422	1	1	6	3	12	4	1
Allamakee	2,660	135	127	275	5	172	3,374	2	5	15	20	64	2	2
Jackson	2,455	110	133	516	29	48	3,291	3	6	10	4	20	23	3
Van Buren	1,957	152	209	352	9	200	3,250	8	3	2	9	54	1	4
Fayette	2,320	80	160	473	35	42	3,110	5	12	8	5	10	28	5
Dubuque	2,349	176	58	306	59	40	2,988	4	2	50	15	3	31	6
Johnson	1,965	76	131	623	77	55	2,927	7	14	11	2	2	22	7
Winneshiek	2,062	61	109	362	22	78	2,694	6	24	19	8	31	13	8
Linn	1,525	139	152	662	33	26	2,537	14	4	9	1	14	43	9
Jones	1,710	55	108	347	22	68	2,310	10	30	20	10	32	16	10
Lee	1,866	49	80	269	16	20	2,300	9	35	33	21	43	52	11
Davis	1,399	50	92	267	28	111	2,292	18	34	25	22	21	7	12
Iowa	1,612	96	194	200	26	23	2,151	12	8	4	39	26	48	13
Warren	1,683	69	58	171	5	47	2,033	11	17	51	41	65	24	14
Marion	1,453	96	99	323	34	18	2,023	16	9	21	14	13	55	15
Tama	1,540	32	128	227	41	24	1,992	13	53	14	32	7	45	16
Washington	1,485	51	188	210	24	18	1,976	15	33	5	35	28	57	17
Clinton	1,448	30	55	298	18	31	1,880	17	56	56	16	39	39	18
Delaware	1,357	64	90	291	46	15	1,863	19	21	26	17	4	62	19
Madison	1,258	15	61	423	-	66	1,823	21	86	45	7	81	19	20
Appanoose	1,186	78	162	151	13	159	1,749	26	13	7	46	47	3	21
Muscatine	1,267	65	54	342	9	10	1,747	20	20	57	12	55	73	22
Cedar	1,255	67	99	242	19	10	1,692	22	19	22	27	38	72	23
Hardin	1,190	59	72	249	88	21	1,679	25	26	36	25	1	50	24
Butler	1,192	83	83	232	28	-	1,618	24	10	32	30	22	96	25
Pottawattamie	1,105	35	129	278	24	30	1,601	35	51	12	19	27	41	26
Taylor	1,148	15	71	49	-	133	1,595	30	88	37	89	95	5	27
Monroe	1,115	82	94	150	10	132	1,583	34	11	24	47	51	6	28
Guthrie	1,138	59	123	120	35	66	1,541	32	27	16	55	11	17	29
Des Moines	1,210	15	62	238	-	12	1,537	23	87	44	28	83	68	30
Benton	1,142	44	31	266	33	6	1,522	31	39	82	23	15	76	31
Henry	1,037	68	86	257	-	69	1,517	39	18	29	24	82	15	32
Louisa	1,155	55	64	194	23	21	1,512	27	31	42	40	29	51	33
Black Hawk	954	70	88	328	41	3	1,484	44	15	28	13	6	81	34
Jasper	1,122	58	52	169	18	16	1,435	33	28	61	42	40	61	35
Keokuk	1,154	32	85	112	4	46	1,433	28	54	30	60	77	25	36
Bremer	1,038	98	53	204	30	6	1,429	38	7	60	38	19	77	37
Kossuth	984	37	250	136	6	11	1,424	42	49	1	52	61	71	38
Ringgold	911	17	32	234	2	95	1,421	46	83	80	29	79	9	39
Webster	1,007	60	56	227	22	39	1,411	40	25	54	33	33	32	40
Mahaska	1,154	31	95	77	18	30	1,405	29	55	23	78	42	42	41
Chickasaw	941	41	48	244	33	16	1,323	45	42	65	26	16	60	42
Wapello	1,052	35	60	115	-	42	1,304	37	52	48	57	87	30	43
Woodbury	895	62	89	205	10	34	1,295	47	23	27	36	49	35	44
Jefferson	1,061	12	66	108	14	32	1,293	36	91	40	66	45	37	45
Boone	823	53	128	231	27	11	1,273	55	32	13	31	25	69	46
Harrison	886	37	116	149	4	66	1,258	49	50	17	49	74	18	47
Union	836	27	66	150	-	82	1,254	53	61	39	48	86	11	48
Decatur	889	26	54	135	5	81	1,251	48	67	58	53	66	12	49
Floyd	981	28	51	115	46	19	1,240	43	59	62	58	5	54	50
Dallas	808	39	55	291	9	31	1,233	57	47	55	18	56	40	51
Lucas	994	40	37	77	6	70	1,224	41	46	76	80	62	14	52
Scott	686	45	27	431	20	3	1,212	65	38	88	6	36	86	53

Table 1.5 Harvest estimates and ranking for each season by county for total kill during the 2001-2002 deer season.

County	Harvest							Rank						
	Shotgun	Muzzleloader		Archery	Youth	Non-resident	Total	Shotgun	Muzzleloader		Archery	Youth	Non-resident	Total
		Early	Late						Early	Late				
Wayne	816	14	85	162	-	84	1,161	56	90	31	43	85	10	54
Howard	832	27	29	205	10	44	1,147	54	62	84	37	50	27	55
Crawford	873	24	76	91	28	42	1,134	51	71	35	70	23	29	56
Marshall	849	41	62	145	4	3	1,104	52	43	43	50	75	92	57
Montgomery	682	26	114	142	6	35	1,085	66	68	18	51	60	33	58
Clarke	874	18	57	84	-	34	1,067	50	80	52	72	92	36	59
Adams	713	39	48	17	-	98	1,053	62	48	66	96	99	8	60
Adair	801	-	32	69	4	24	1,019	58	98	81	82	78	46	61
Poweshiek	776	22	67	127	10	5	1,007	59	76	38	54	52	80	62
Buchanan	746	70	37	66	38	3	960	61	16	74	84	8	82	63
Monona	694	44	60	80	9	63	950	64	40	47	76	57	20	64
Cerro Gordo	578	23	196	115	5	15	932	74	73	3	56	67	63	65
Cherokee	774	18	36	44	28	3	903	60	81	79	91	24	85	66
Polk	453	24	59	343	6	6	891	85	72	49	11	59	78	67
Wright	696	29	38	82	15	22	882	63	57	72	75	44	49	68
Greene	614	29	39	159	18	18	877	70	58	70	44	41	58	69
Franklin	681	41	23	102	5	13	865	67	44	91	67	69	65	70
Fremont	616	3	61	110	-	20	836	69	96	46	63	89	53	71
Cass	607	21	54	62	23	61	828	71	79	59	85	30	21	72
Mitchell	645	47	38	85	-	13	828	68	37	71	71	91	66	73
Sac	581	15	37	109	13	44	799	73	89	78	65	48	26	74
Story	596	42	48	77	32	3	798	72	41	64	79	17	84	75
Mills	510	18	37	212	-	15	792	79	82	77	34	84	64	76
Page	527	27	42	75	6	25	729	76	63	69	81	63	44	77
Clay	488	56	64	66	22	31	727	82	29	41	83	35	38	78
Buena Vista	540	12	44	111	5	3	715	75	92	68	62	68	90	79
Worth	525	9	57	114	4	3	712	77	93	53	59	76	93	80
Plymouth	501	64	37	52	-	3	657	80	22	75	88	94	94	81
Hamilton	437	23	31	110	22	11	634	86	74	83	64	34	70	82
O'Brien	491	17	14	84	20	3	629	81	84	94	73	37	87	83
Palo Alto	515	27	13	48	-	24	627	78	64	96	90	96	47	84
Sioux	486	28	10	78	9	3	614	83	60	97	77	58	89	85
Shelby	437	22	25	112	-	6	602	87	77	89	61	88	79	86
Winnebago	309	23	28	152	36	3	551	93	75	86	45	9	83	87
Emmet	328	27	77	82	-	35	549	92	65	34	74	93	34	88
Ida	465	-	19	55	5	-	544	84	99	93	86	70	98	89
Lyon	420	48	21	38	-	9	536	88	36	92	92	97	75	90
Carroll	307	27	28	100	1	18	481	94	66	85	68	80	59	91
Audubon	400	9	28	11	5	12	465	89	94	87	97	72	67	92
Hancock	350	25	38	35	10	-	458	91	70	73	93	53	97	93
Pocahontas	370	9	25	11	5	3	423	90	95	90	98	73	91	94
Humboldt	278	41	13	53	14	3	402	95	45	95	87	46	88	95
Dickinson	226	22	45	98	-	9	400	97	78	67	69	90	74	96
Osceola	260	26	3	4	32	18	343	96	69	99	99	18	56	97
Calhoun	100	17	51	22	5	-	195	99	85	63	94	71	99	98
Grundy	161	3	8	18	-	3	193	98	97	98	95	98	95	99

Table 1.6 Harvest estimates by county for total kill during the 2001-2002 deer season.

County	Hunters	Antlered		Button	Total	Percent of kill		Hunters/ Sq. Mile	Kill/ Sq. Mile
		Bucks	Does	Bucks		Does	Antlered Bucks		
Adair	2,049	457	447	115	1,019	44%	45%	3.6	1.8
Adams	1,658	382	554	117	1,053	53%	36%	3.9	2.5
Allamakee	6,115	1,529	1,466	379	3,374	43%	45%	9.6	5.3
Appanoose	3,128	763	720	266	1,749	41%	44%	6.0	3.3
Audubon	714	220	169	76	465	36%	47%	1.6	1.0
Benton	3,051	617	671	234	1,522	44%	41%	4.2	2.1
Black Hawk	2,538	453	805	226	1,484	54%	31%	4.5	2.6
Boone	2,484	497	623	153	1,273	49%	39%	4.3	2.2
Bremer	2,514	484	776	169	1,429	54%	34%	5.7	3.3
Buchanan	2,253	467	373	120	960	39%	49%	4.0	1.7
Buena Vista	1,284	397	304	14	715	43%	56%	2.2	1.3
Butler	2,997	702	711	205	1,618	44%	43%	5.1	2.8
Calhoun	470	79	91	25	195	47%	41%	0.8	0.3
Carroll	1,164	170	280	31	481	58%	35%	2.0	0.8
Cass	1,591	494	208	126	828	25%	60%	2.8	1.5
Cedar	2,938	773	716	203	1,692	42%	46%	5.0	2.9
Cerro Gordo	1,710	391	501	40	932	54%	42%	3.0	1.6
Cherokee	1,611	368	398	137	903	44%	41%	2.8	1.6
Chickasaw	2,339	661	566	96	1,323	43%	50%	4.6	2.6
Clarke	1,981	450	510	107	1,067	48%	42%	4.6	2.5
Clay	1,427	423	231	73	727	32%	58%	2.5	1.3
Clayton	8,530	2,704	2,160	558	5,422	40%	50%	10.9	7.0
Clinton	3,580	876	813	191	1,880	43%	47%	5.2	2.7
Crawford	2,064	503	435	196	1,134	38%	44%	2.9	1.6
Dallas	2,369	501	527	205	1,233	43%	41%	4.0	2.1
Davis	4,145	774	1,136	382	2,292	50%	34%	8.1	4.5
Decatur	2,289	628	543	80	1,251	43%	50%	4.3	2.4
Delaware	3,229	951	742	170	1,863	40%	51%	5.6	3.3
Des Moines	2,569	863	528	146	1,537	34%	56%	6.3	3.8
Dickinson	768	230	133	37	400	33%	58%	2.0	1.1
Dubuque	5,241	1,278	1,316	394	2,988	44%	43%	8.6	4.9
Emmet	1,173	250	264	35	549	48%	46%	3.0	1.4
Fayette	5,142	1,392	1,259	459	3,110	40%	45%	7.1	4.3
Floyd	2,047	531	582	127	1,240	47%	43%	4.1	2.5
Franklin	1,547	349	419	97	865	48%	40%	2.6	1.5
Fremont	1,251	414	363	59	836	43%	50%	2.4	1.6
Greene	1,584	461	360	56	877	41%	53%	2.8	1.5
Grundy	459	98	69	26	193	36%	51%	0.9	0.4
Guthrie	2,807	816	482	243	1,541	31%	53%	4.7	2.6
Hamilton	1,429	377	214	43	634	34%	59%	2.5	1.1
Hancock	1,161	233	147	78	458	32%	51%	2.0	0.8
Hardin	2,352	785	700	194	1,679	42%	47%	4.1	2.9
Harrison	2,291	742	332	184	1,258	26%	59%	3.3	1.8
Henry	2,534	640	692	185	1,517	46%	42%	5.8	3.4
Howard	1,787	391	639	117	1,147	56%	34%	3.8	2.4
Humboldt	614	196	146	60	402	36%	49%	1.4	0.9
Ida	766	314	175	55	544	32%	58%	1.8	1.3
Iowa	3,451	1,034	887	230	2,151	41%	48%	5.9	3.7
Jackson	5,165	1,588	1,275	428	3,291	39%	48%	8.0	5.1
Jasper	2,812	744	534	157	1,435	37%	52%	3.8	2.0
Jefferson	1,974	489	602	202	1,293	47%	38%	4.5	3.0
Johnson	5,230	1,243	1,289	395	2,927	44%	42%	8.4	4.7
Jones	3,774	1,077	912	321	2,310	39%	47%	6.5	3.9
Keokuk	2,440	572	643	218	1,433	45%	40%	4.2	2.5

Table 1.6 Harvest estimates by county for total kill during the 2001-2002 deer season.

County	Hunters	Antlered			Total	Percent of kill		Hunters/ Sq. Mile	Kill/ Sq. Mile
		Bucks	Does	Button Bucks		Does	Antlered Bucks		
Kossuth	2,554	587	664	173	1,424	47%	41%	2.6	1.5
Lee	4,399	826	1,256	218	2,300	55%	36%	8.3	4.4
Linn	4,694	1,186	1,053	298	2,537	42%	47%	6.5	3.5
Louisa	2,470	539	747	226	1,512	49%	36%	6.1	3.8
Lucas	2,463	550	495	179	1,224	40%	45%	5.7	2.8
Lyon	1,206	181	255	100	536	48%	34%	2.1	0.9
Madison	3,124	913	651	259	1,823	36%	50%	5.5	3.2
Mahaska	2,491	744	522	139	1,405	37%	53%	4.4	2.5
Marion	3,703	1,086	648	289	2,023	32%	54%	6.5	3.6
Marshall	1,800	544	417	143	1,104	38%	49%	3.1	1.9
Mills	1,111	509	262	21	792	33%	64%	2.5	1.8
Mitchell	1,482	337	295	196	828	36%	41%	3.2	1.8
Monona	1,969	526	362	62	950	38%	55%	2.8	1.4
Monroe	3,196	712	807	64	1,583	51%	45%	7.3	3.6
Montgomery	1,659	559	388	138	1,085	36%	52%	3.9	2.6
Muscatine	3,100	643	796	308	1,747	46%	37%	7.0	3.9
O'Brien	1,259	335	241	53	629	38%	53%	2.2	1.1
Osceola	962	129	206	8	343	60%	38%	2.4	0.9
Page	1,340	346	280	103	729	38%	47%	2.5	1.4
Palo Alto	1,051	367	175	85	627	28%	59%	1.9	1.1
Plymouth	1,644	306	253	98	657	39%	47%	1.9	0.8
Pocahontas	983	183	200	40	423	47%	43%	1.7	0.7
Polk	1,802	549	237	105	891	27%	62%	3.0	1.5
Pottawattami	2,874	833	659	109	1,601	41%	52%	3.0	1.7
Poweshiek	1,884	513	433	61	1,007	43%	51%	3.2	1.7
Ringgold	2,702	645	629	147	1,421	44%	45%	5.0	2.6
Sac	1,085	409	306	84	799	38%	51%	1.9	1.4
Scott	2,629	611	481	120	1,212	40%	50%	5.8	2.7
Shelby	1,285	326	246	30	602	41%	54%	2.2	1.0
Sioux	1,404	271	175	168	614	29%	44%	1.8	0.8
Story	1,643	418	266	114	798	33%	52%	2.9	1.4
Tama	3,194	935	885	172	1,992	44%	47%	4.4	2.8
Taylor	2,584	798	623	174	1,595	39%	50%	4.9	3.0
Union	2,032	428	661	165	1,254	53%	34%	4.8	3.0
Van Buren	4,889	1,244	1,631	375	3,250	50%	38%	10.0	6.7
Wapello	2,424	620	461	223	1,304	35%	48%	5.5	3.0
Warren	3,831	1,024	729	280	2,033	36%	50%	6.7	3.6
Washington	3,406	810	969	197	1,976	49%	41%	6.0	3.5
Wayne	1,774	675	357	129	1,161	31%	58%	3.3	2.2
Webster	2,646	587	666	158	1,411	47%	42%	3.7	2.0
Winnebago	1,033	240	215	96	551	39%	44%	2.6	1.4
Winneshiek	4,946	1,447	1,052	195	2,694	39%	54%	7.2	3.9
Woodbury	3,021	701	496	98	1,295	38%	54%	3.5	1.5
Worth	1,694	340	287	85	712	40%	48%	4.2	1.8
Wright	1,465	408	369	105	882	42%	46%	2.5	1.5
Total	243,974	61,761	58,359	16,535	136,655	43%	45%	4.4	2.4

Table 1.7 A summary of archery season dates, hours, success rates and other information (1953 - present).

Year	Dates	Hours	Percent Bucks in Harvest	Success Rate	Mean Days/Hunter	General Comments
1953	Dec 10-14	9am-4pm		10		Open for same counties as shotgun. 40 lb draw limit. \$15 fee. Limit 1/day
1954	Dec 10-12	9am-4pm		11		Open for same counties as shotgun plus 5 1/2 others.
1955	Oct 29-Nov 20	6:30am-4pm		14		Open statewide 1955 - present. Limit 1/season. \$10 fee.
1956	Oct 13-Nov 12	6:30am-5pm		10		Separate archery license.
1957	Oct 26-Nov 25	6:30am-5pm		11		
1958	Nov 1- Nov 30	6:30am-5:30pm		12		
1959	Oct 31-Nov 30	6:30am-5:30pm		16		
1960	Oct 15-Nov 27	6:30am-5:30pm		16		
1961	Oct 14-Nov 30	6:30am-5:30pm		17		
1962	Oct 13-Dec 1	6:30am-5:30pm		17		
1963	Oct 12-Dec 1	1/2 hr before sunrise to		19		
1964	Oct 17-Dec 6	1/2 hr after sunset		19		30 lb minimum limit on draw weight.
1964	Oct 17-Dec 6	"				
1965	Oct 16-Dec 5	"		17		
1966	Oct 15-Nov 13& Nov 26-Dec 16	"		13		No draw limit.
1967	Sep 30-Nov 30	"		19		
1968	Sep 28-Nov 28	"		17		
1969	Sep 27- Nov 27	"		16		
1970	Sep 26-Nov 26	"		18	14	
1971	Oct 16-Nov 28& Dec 6-12	"		19	13	
1972	Oct 6-Nov 26	"	66	20	13	
1973	Oct 13-Nov 25& Dec 8-16	"	59	18	11	
1974	Oct 12-Dec 1	"				Licenses issued by county recorder.
1975	Oct 11-Nov 21& Nov 26-Dec 5	"				
1976	Oct 2-Nov 26	"	60	20	14	
1977	Oct 8-Dec 2	"	64	20	16	
1978	Oct 7-Dec 1	"	62	25	15	\$ 15 fee.
1979	Oct 6-Nov 30	"	63	26	16	
1980	Oct 11-Dec 5	"				
1981	Oct 10-Dec 4	"	68	26	17	

Table 1.7 A summary of archery season dates, hours, success rates and other information (1953 - present).

Year	Dates	Hours	Percent Buck in Harvest	Success Rate	Mean Days/Hunter	General Comments
1982	Oct 9-Dec	"	67	26	16	
1983	Oct 8-Dec	"	69	28	16	
1984	Oct 6-Nov	"	69	27	16	
1985	Oct 12-Dec	"	68	26	15	\$ 20 fee.
1986	Oct 11-Dec	"	72	38	17	Limit 1/Bow and 1/Gun
1987	Oct 1-Dec	"	68	35		Added late season.
	Dec 21-Jan	"				
1988	Oct 1-Dec	"	71	35	16	
	Dec 19-Jan	"				
1989	Oct 1-Dec	"	73	36	20	Bonus 2nd tag for antlerless deer statewide
	Dec 18-Jan	"				
1990	Oct 1-Nov	"	65	32	19	Bonus tag for antlerless early or anysex late, statewide
	Dec 17-Jan	"				
1991	Oct 1-Dec	"	73	28	17	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in zones 3a,4a,5a and 6. \$25 fee.
	Dec 23-Jan	"				
1992	Oct 1-Dec	"	69	28	15	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone if no gun tag.
	Dec 21 -Jan	"				
1993	Oct 1-Dec	"	73	32	17	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone if no gun tag.
	Dec 20-Jan	"				
1994	Oct 1-Dec	"	77	37	16	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone if no gun tag.
	Dec 19-Jan	"				
1995	Oct 1-Dec	"	76	39	17	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone if no gun tag.
	Dec 18-Jan	"				
1996	Oct 1-Dec	"	78	37	16	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone if no gun tag.
	Dec 23-Jan	"				
1997	Oct 1-Dec	"	71	42	17	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone. Could get firearm license also.
	Dec 22-Jan	"				
1998	Oct 1-Dec	"	76	34	15	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone. Could get firearm license also.
	Dec 21-Jan	"				
1999	Oct 1-Dec	"	79	37	16	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone. Could get firearm license also.
	Dec 20-Jan	"				
2000	Oct 1-Dec	"	80	44	17	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available only in bonus antlerless zone. Could get firearm license also.
	Dec 18-Jan	"				
2001	Oct 1-Nov	"	75	37	17	Bonus tag for antlerless deer available in every county. Could get firearm license also.
	Dec 17-Jan	"				

Table 1.8 A summary of muzzleloader season dates, hours, success rates and other information (1984 - present).

Year	Dates	Hours	Percent Bucks in Harvest	Success Rate	Mean Days/Hunter	General Comments
1984	Dec 15-21	Sunrise to Sunset	45	22	6	1500 A-S Quota. \$15 fee.
1985	Dec 21-27	"	44	34	4	2000 A-S Quota. \$20 fee.
1986	Oct 11-17	1/2 hr before	100	17	4	2500 B-O Quota.
	Dec 20-Jan 4	sunrise to	43	40	6	Unlimited A-S Quota.
1987	Oct 10-18	1/2 hr after	55	52	8	3000 A-S Quota
	Dec 21-Jan 10	sunset	46	42	6	Unlimited A-S Quota.
1988	Oct 15-23	"	55	55	4	3500 A-S Quota
	Dec 19-Jan 10	"	41	39	6	Unlimited A-S Quota.
1989	Oct 14-22	"	55	49	5	5000 A-S Quota
	Dec 18-Jan 10	"	28	39	9	Unlimited A-S Quota. Could hunt during shotgun & late muzzleloader seasons.
1990	Oct 13-21	"	53	46	5	5000 A-S Quota
	Dec 17-Jan 10	"	50	45	8	Could hunt shotgun & late muzzleloader season.
1991	Oct 12-20	"	54	47	5	5000 A-S Quota
	Dec 23-Jan 10	"	40	33	8	Could hunt shotgun & late muzzleloader season, but all 2nd tags valid for antlerless only in zones 3a,4a,5a&6.
1992	Oct 10-18	"	60	45	4	7500 Anysex license quota.
	Dec 21-Jan 10	"	40	36	8	All second licenses antlerless, Zones 4a,5a&6.
1993	Oct 9-17	"	71	34	5	7500 license quota, 65 counties buck-only.
	Dec 20-Jan 10	"	46	39	8	Antlerless in 14 counties, 35 counties buck-only.
1994	Oct 15-23	"	78	36	5	7500 license quota, 67 counties buck-only.
	Dec 19-Jan 10	"	52	39	8	Antlerless in 14 counties, 35 counties buck-only.
1995	Oct 14-22	"	73	43	5	7500 license quota, 69 counties buck-only.
	Dec 18-Jan 10	"	55	46	8	No antlerless tags, 29 counties modified buck-only.
1996	Oct 12-20	"	75	39	5	7500 license quota, 64 counties buck-only.
	Dec 23-Jan 10	"	49	46	7	Antlerless in 15 1/2 counties, 26 modified buck-only.
1997	Oct 11-19	"	55	62	4	7500 license quota, no counties buck only
	Dec 22-Jan 10	"	44	52	7	Antlerless in 19 1/2 counties, no counties buck-only.
1998	Oct 17-25	"	64	52	5	7500 license quota, no counties buck only
	Dec 21-Jan 10	"	54	50	7	Antlerless in 20 counties, no counties buck-only.
1999	Oct 16-24	"	60	57	4	7500 license quota, no counties buck only
	Dec 20-Jan 10	"	52	46	7	Antlerless in 21 counties, no counties buck-only.
2000	Oct 14-22	"	60	53	4	7500 license quota, 16 counties modified buck only
	Dec 18-Jan 10	"	50	47	7	Antlerless in 21 counties, no counties buck-only.
2001	Oct 13-21	"	54	53	4	7500 license quota, no counties buck only
	Dec 17-Jan 10	"	52	44	8	Antlerless in all counties, no counties buck-only.

Table 1.9 The results of the hunter opinion surveys on the quality of the hunt and the number of deer in the area the hunter hunted during the 2001-2002.

Season	License Type	Number of Respondents	Rating of Quality of Hunt				Number of deer in area		
			Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Unsatisfied	Very Unsatisfied	Too Few	About Right	Too Many
Shotgun	Statewide	14,045	23%	60%	13%	4%	15%	63%	22%
	Landowner	2,814	25%	59%	13%	4%	11%	52%	36%
Nonresident	Varies	1,465	42%	45%	10%	3%	14%	74%	12%
Youth	Any-sex	539	36%	45%	14%	5%			
Muzzleloader									
Early	Statewide	1,755	20%	57%	17%	6%	21%	69%	11%
Late	Statewide	1,729	19%	57%	18%	6%	23%	62%	15%
Antlerless	Antlerless	3,078	28%	56%	12%	5%	17%	61%	22%
Archery	Any-sex	1,906	22%	58%	16%	4%	22%	70%	8%
Weighted Total		25,907	24%	58%	14%	4%	16%	62%	21%

Table 1.10 The results of the deer population surveys (1976 - present).

Year	Spotlight Survey		Aerial Survey		Traffic Kill	Traffic Kill Per Billion Vehicle Mi.	
	Mean Count	Percent Change	Weighted Count a	Percent Change		Number	Percent Change
1976	-	-	-	-	2,537	225	-1%
1977	-	-	-	-	2,929	252	12%
1978	6.9	-	-	-	2,872	241	-4%
1979	6.8	-1%	-	-	3,005	259	7%
1980	7.1	4%	-	-	3,743	335	29%
1981	5.9	-17%	-	-	4,164	365	9%
1982	12.0	103%	-	-	4,805	412	13%
1983	13.3	11%	5,903	-	5,335	448	9%
1984	16.4	23%	6,387	8%	6,177	500	12%
1985	15.4	-6%	7,607	19%	5,925	495	-1%
1986	18.5	20%	9,790	29%	7,225	593	20%
1987	18.2	-2%	-	-	8,440	678	14%
1988	20.8	14%	10,289	5% b	9,248	707	4%
1989	26.8	29%	9,672	-6%	8,914	655	-7%
1990	24.0	-10%	7,070	-27%	8,799	607	-7%
1991	23.0	-4%	9,191	30%	8,428	590	-3%
1992	23.0	0%	8,235	-10%	9,135	616	4%
1993	30.0	30%	8,680	5%	9,576	624	1%
1994	25.8	-14%	10,483	21%	10,438	663	6%
1995	35.3	37%	10,877	4%	11,167	699	5%
1996	51.1	45%	12,051	11%	12,276	748	7%
1997	51.1	0%	13,902	15%	13,148	778	4%
1998	55.9	9%	12,651	-9%	12,427	714	-8%
1999	59.9	7%	14,928	18%	11,366	637	-11%
2000	57.2	-5%	15,375	3%	10,970	634	0%
2001	81.4	42%	15,793	3%	13,100	757	19%
2002	80.8	-1%	13,107	-17%			

a - adjusted for missing counts

b - change from 1986 to 1988

Table 1.11 Results from controlled hunts in the special deer management zones for 2001-2002.

Area	Weapon	Licenses	Hunters	Harvest
Springbrook State Park	Firearm	30	30	23
Lake Panorama	Archery	175	119	54
Lake of Three Fires	Shotgun	45	35	24
Kent Park	Shotgun	50	50	23
Coralville, City of	Archery	300	162	73
Johnson County Zone	Archery & Firearm	400	334	248
Waterloo/Cedar Falls Zone	Archery	290	201	86
Viking Lake	Shotgun	45	40	26
Lake Manawa State Park	Archery	45	45	16
Lake Darling	Shotgun	180	152	72
Elk Rock State Park	Shotgun	50	50	45
Scott County Park	Shotgun	50	48	34
Linn County Zone	Archery & Firearm	500	341	285
Squaw Creek Park	Archery	145	94	44
Marion, City of	Archery	50	50	41
Backbone State Park	Shotgun	120	117	86
Polk County Zone	Archery & Firearm	300	211	153
Dubuque County Zone	Archery & Firearm	625	448	240
Iowa Army Amunition Plant	Archery & Firearm	450	Cancelled	
Depredation & Shooting Permits	Archery & Firearm	1950	1950	1247
Total		5800	4477	2820

Hunters/Sq. Mile

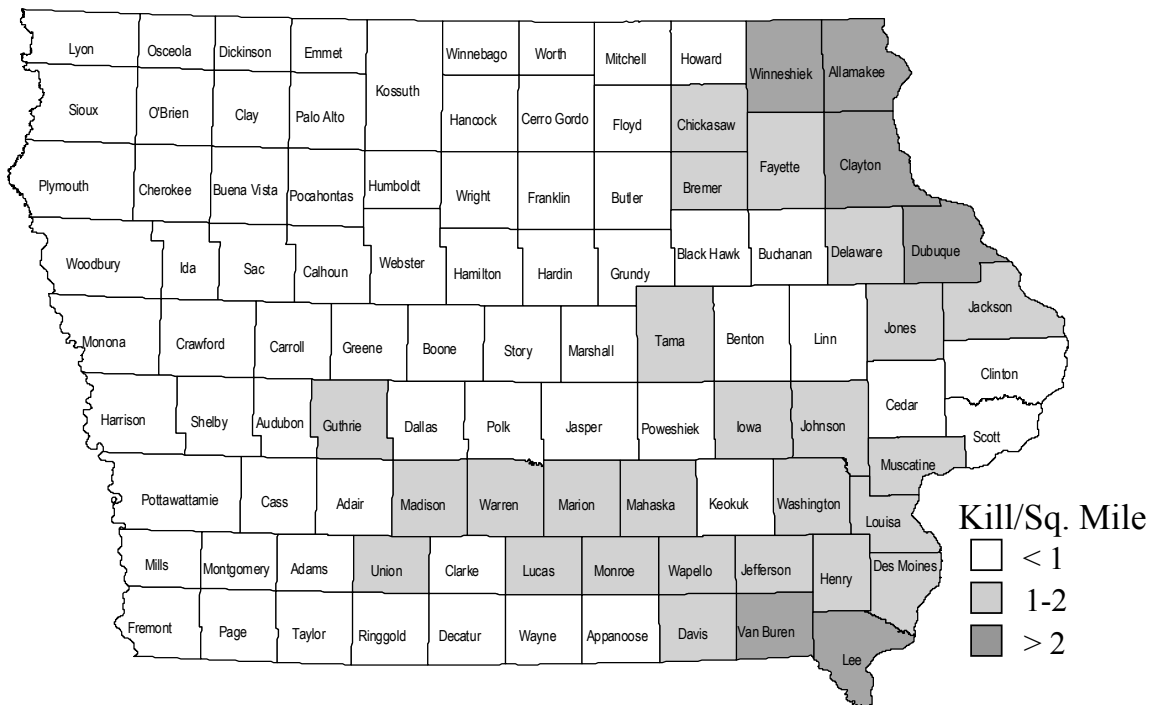
- < 1
- 1-2
- > 2

Hunters/Sq. Mile

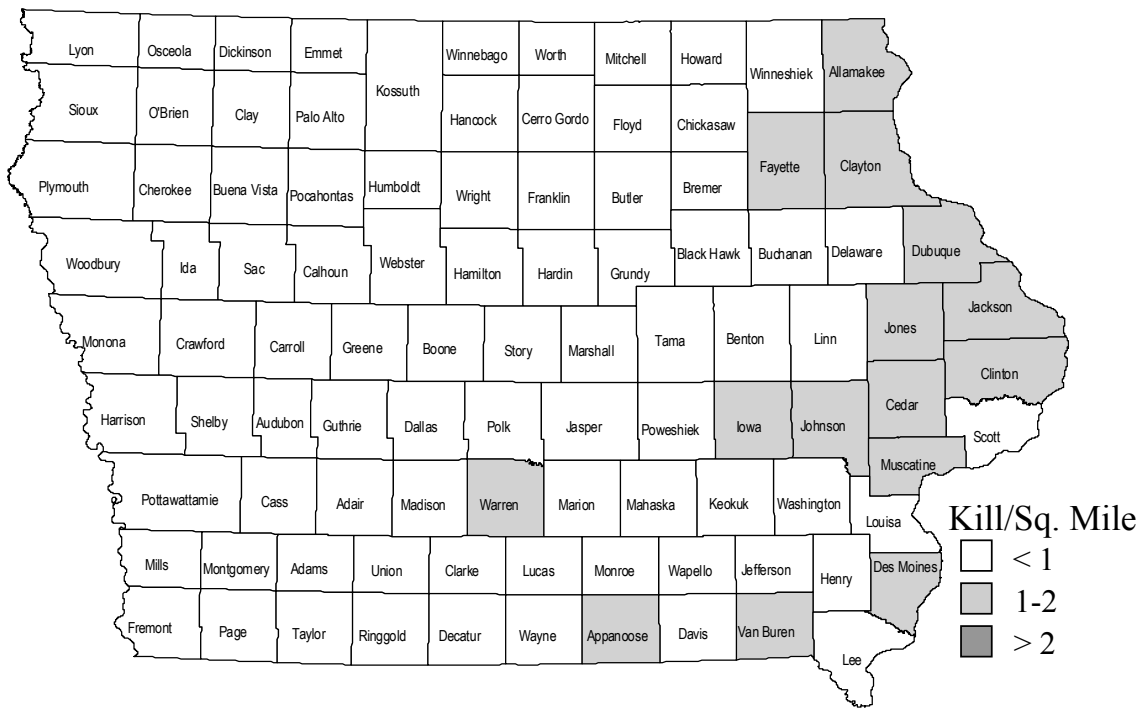
- < 1
- 1-2
- > 2

21

Fig 1.2 The average number of deer killed/square mile in each county during the 2001 shotgun season. The kill by hunters with free landowner/tenant licenses was not included since their licenses were valid for both seasons.

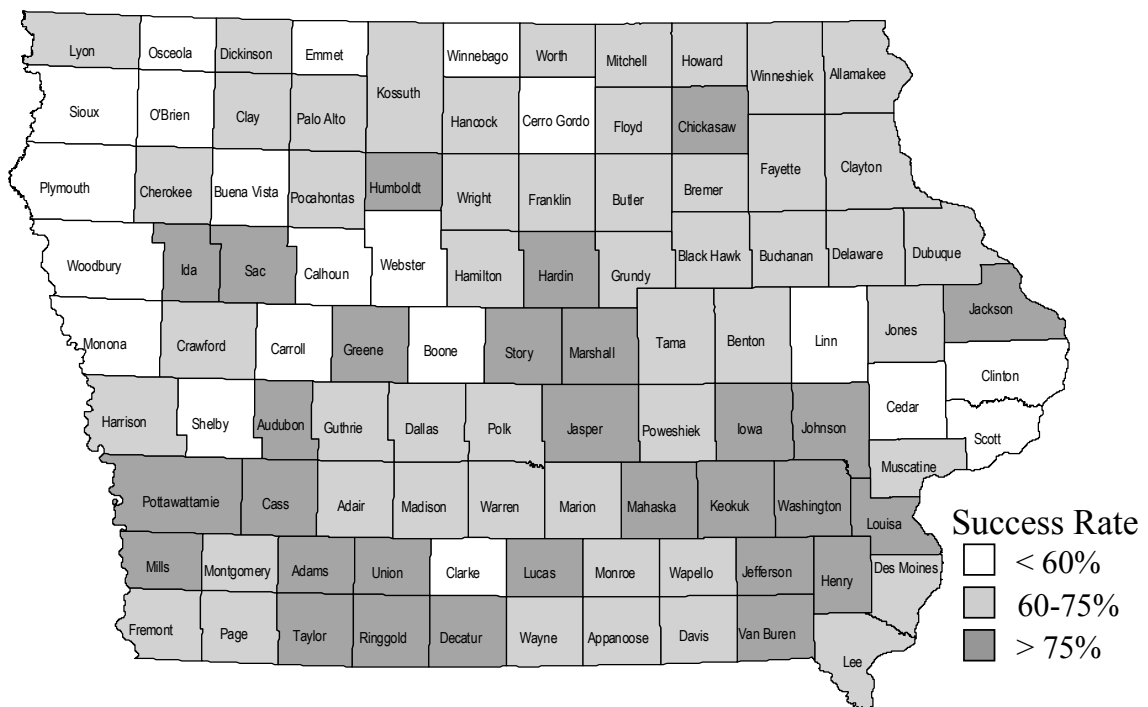


Season 1

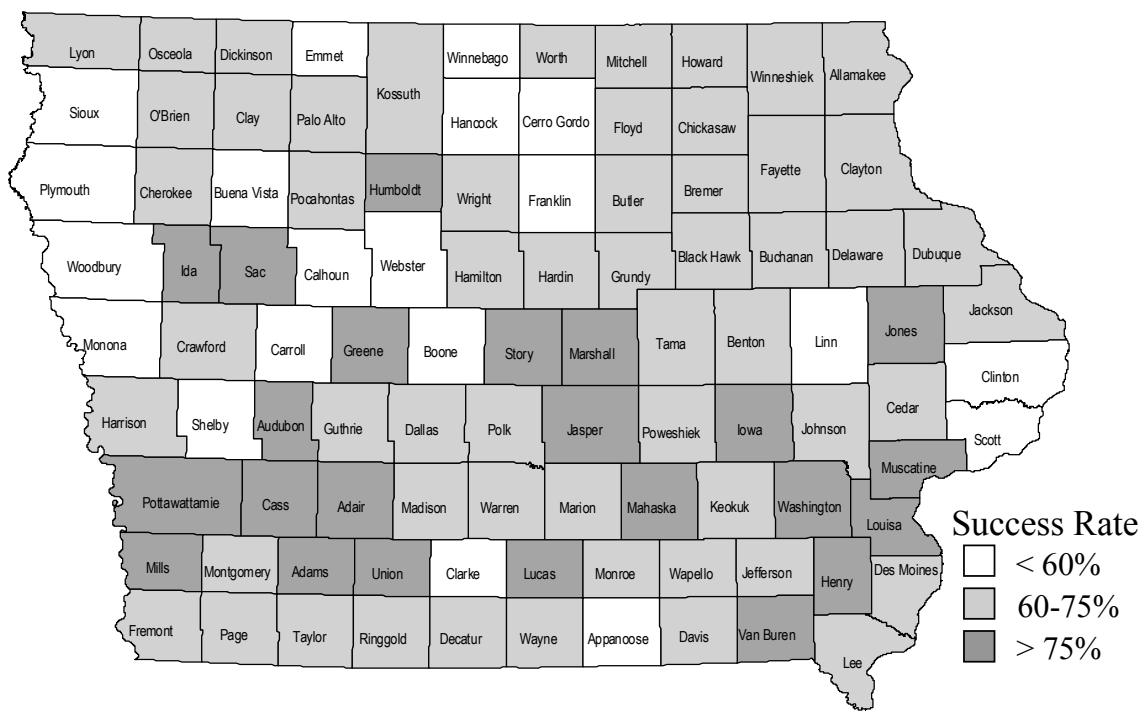


Season 2

Fig 1.3 The average success rate for hunters with paid licenses in each county during the 2001 shotgun season. Hunters with free landowner/tenant licenses are not included since their licenses were valid for both seasons.

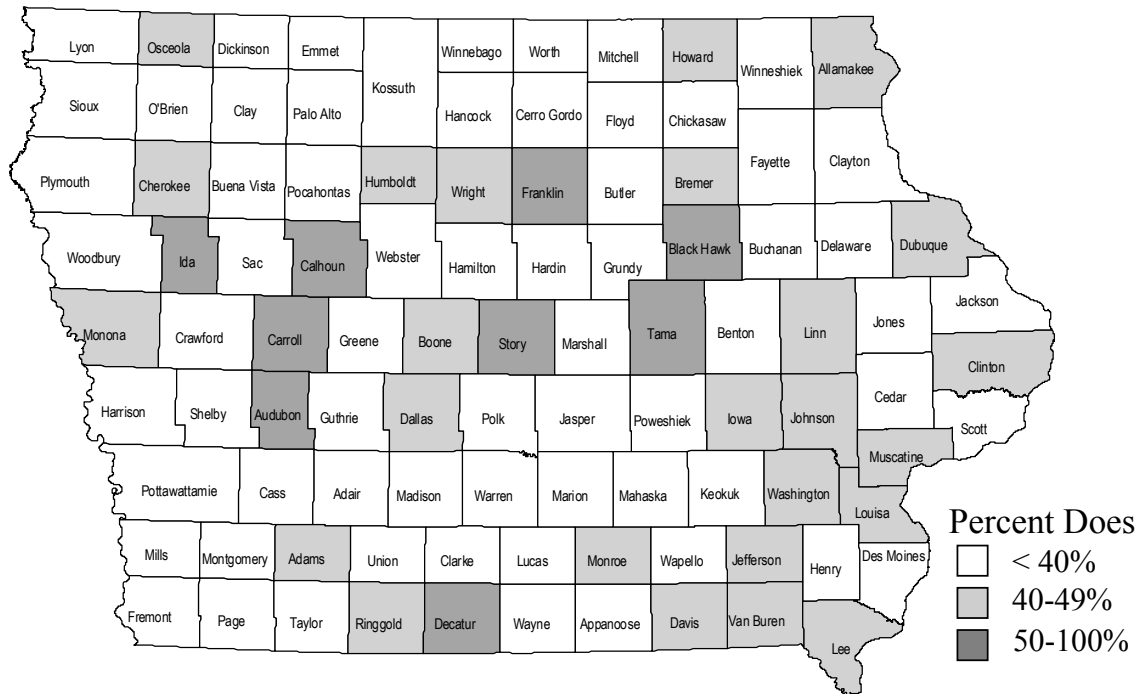


Season 1

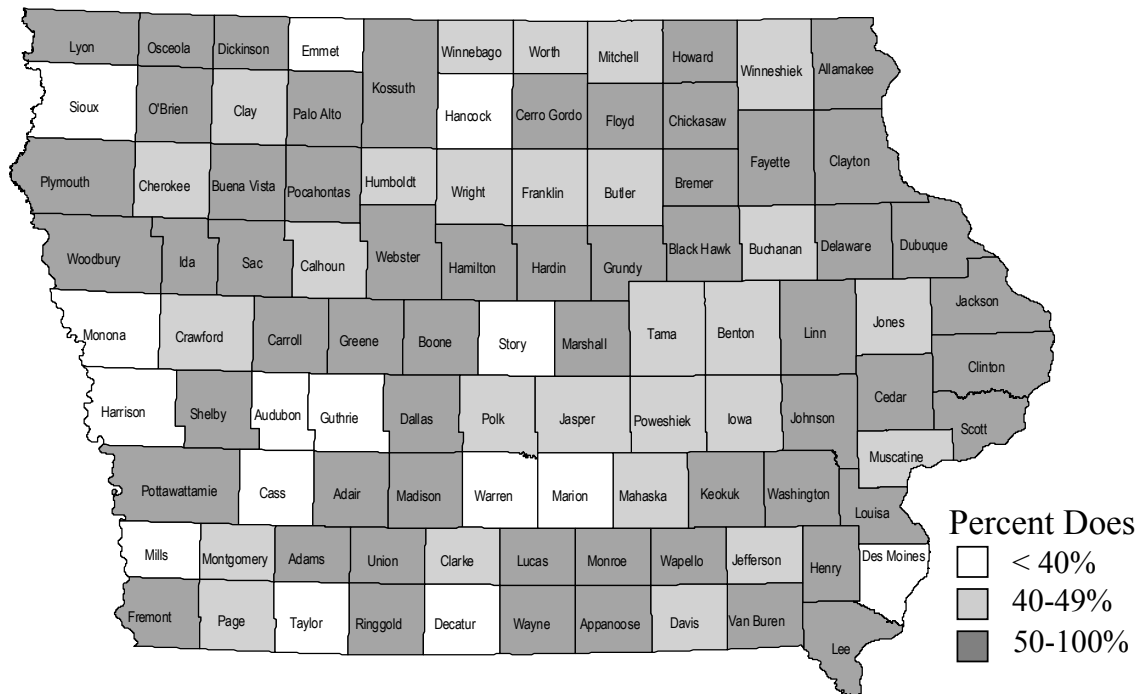


Season 2

Fig 1.4 The proportion of the harvest by hunters with paid licenses that were does during the 2001 shotgun season. The kill by hunters with free landowner/tenant licenses are not included since their licenses are valid for both seasons.



Season 1



Season 2

Fig 1.5 The average number of deer killed per square mile in each county during the 2001 deer season.

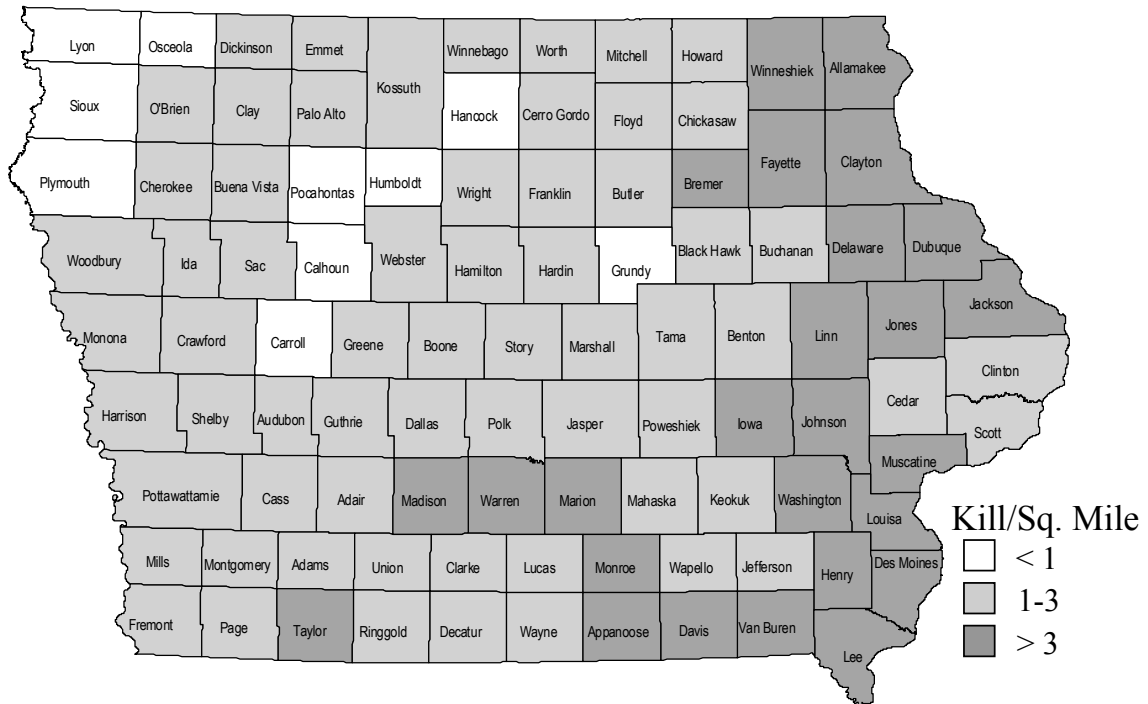


Fig 1.6 The proportion of the harvest that were does in each county during the 2001 deer season.

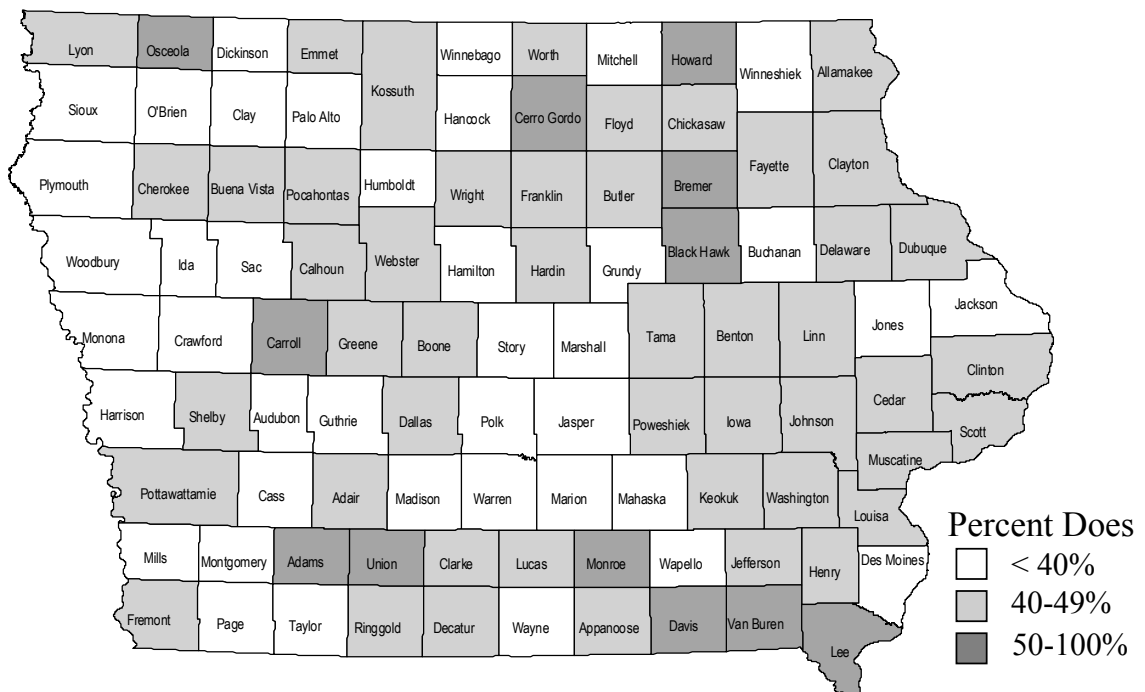


Fig 1.7 A comparison of the timing of the deer kill during the past 3 archery seasons.

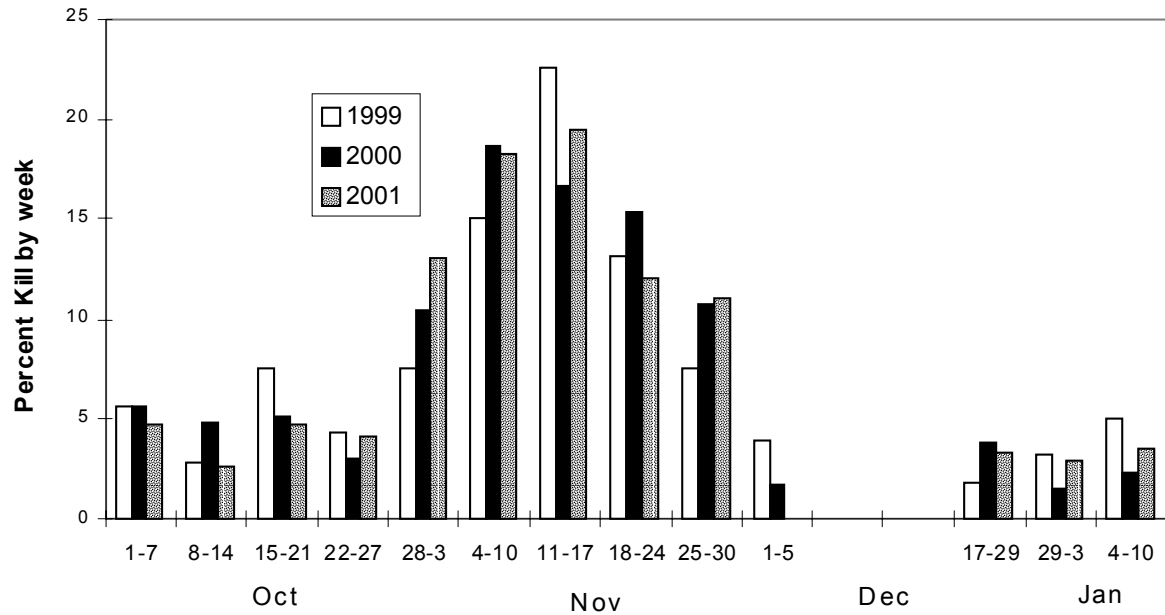
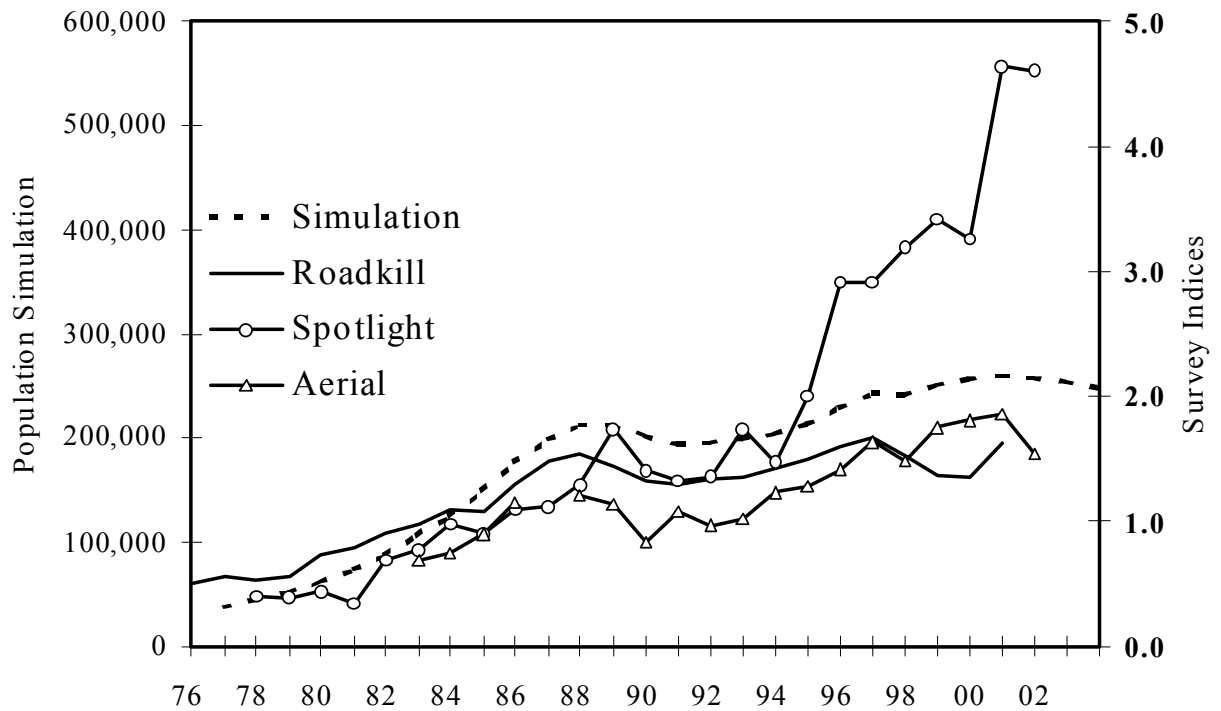


Fig 1.8 Deer population indices, 1976-present.



1st Season Shotgun and Early Muzzleloader

Any-sex

The map shows all 99 Iowa counties. A legend indicates that all counties are included in the 'Any-sex' category for the 1st Season Shotgun and Early Muzzleloader hunt.



